

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 1, 5, 10-12 and 14-18 will remain pending in the present application.

In the instant amendment, claims 1 and 5 have been amended, claims 2-3, 7 and 13 have been cancelled, and claims 14-18 have been added.

The instant amendment made herein to the claims does not incorporate new matter into the application as originally filed. For example, the amendment to claim 1 is based on claim 3, which has been cancelled, and the disclosure at page 6, lines 6-2 from the bottom of the instant specification. New claims 14 and 17 are based on the disclosure at page 3, lines 15-22 of the instant specification. New claim 15 is based on claim 1. New claim 16 is based on claim 12. New claim 18 is based on claim 14.

Proper consideration of each of the pending claims (i.e., claims 1, 5, 10-12 and 14-18) is respectfully requested at present, as is entry of the present amendment.

Personal Interview

If the present application is not found to be in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner grant a personal interview. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to schedule and confirm a personal interview.

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868) at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: OCT 20 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Andrew D. Meikle

Registration No.: 32,868
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant